

## Message Text

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43

ACTION AID-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 HUD-01 EB-07 IGA-01 L-02 COME-00

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R 031015Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 567

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ECRE EG

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON LOW COST HOUSING

1. SIRRI SPOKE TO ME YESTERDAY ABOUT A REQUEST RECEIVED FROM MINISTER OF RECONSTRUCTION OSMAN FOR US ASSISTANCE IN HELPING TO FINANCE AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LOW COST HOUSING SCHEDULED TO BE HELD IN CAIRO ON JANUARY 6-11.

2. ACCORDING TO OSMAN'S LETTER, THE CONFERENCE IS JOINTLY SPONSORED BY THE EGYPTIAN INSTITUTE OF CIVIL ENGINEERS AND AN AMERICAN ORGANIZATION WHICH HE CALLED "THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR HIGH RISES." THE LATTER IS HEADED BY A MR. LYNN BEDELL (PHONETIC). ONE HUNDRED FIFTY EXPERTS ON LOW COST HOUSING FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD ARE EXPECTED TO ASSEMBLE TO DISCUSS LOW COST HOUSING.

3. OSMAN'S LETTER NOTED THAT THE COST WILL BE LE 111,666. THESE FUNDS WOULD BE USED LARGELY TO PAY PARTICIPANTS' TRAVEL TO AND FROM EGYPT. OSMAN ASKED IF THESE COSTS COULD BE FINANCED OUT OF PL480 SURPLUS CURRENCIES. GOE INTENDS DEFRAY LOCAL TRANSPORTATION AND RELATED COSTS. SO FAR AS GOE IS CONCERNED, SIRRI INDICATED IT HAS NO OBJECTION, BUT HE REMINDED OSMAN THAT USG APPROVAL IS NECESSARY. SIRRI ASKED IF WE WOULD APPROVE SUCH A USE OF PL480 FUNDS.

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4. I ASKED IF THE AMERICAN ORGANIZATION SPONSORING THIS

CONFERENCE WAS IN ANY WAY CONNECTED WITH A USG DEPARTMENT SUCH AS HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT. SIRRI DID NOT KNOW. I POINTED OUT THAT SUCH FUNDS CANNOT BE EXPENDED FREELY, BUT REQUIRED PROGRAMMING BY VARIOUS USG DEPARTMENTS FOR PROJECTS IN EGYPT. I UNDERTOOK TO INQUIRE IF THERE IS ANY USG INTEREST IN THIS MATTER.

5. ACTION REQUESTED. WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT SOUNDING OUT APPROPRIATE USG'S DEPARTMENTS IF ONE OR ANOTHER HAS OR WOULD HAVE A SPECIAL INTEREST IN THIS CONFERENCE AND WHETHER PROPOSED FUNDING THROUGH US-OWNED PL480 SURPLUS CURRENCIES IS POSSIBLE. SUSPECT OSMAN IS AWARE OF EARLIER AID-SPONSORED LOW COST HOUSING CONFERENCE IN KENYA AND IS EXPLORING POSSIBILITY US HELP FOR SIMILAR EGYPTIAN EFFORT. BELIEVE THE PROJECT IS A GOOD AND NECESSARY ONE HERE AND, IF FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE, DESERVES TO BE SUPPORTED.  
EILTS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, HOUSING, MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 03 DEC 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** izenbei0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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